

KENTUCKY OFFICIAL COAL HAUL HIGHWAY SYSTEM 2005

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INTRODUCTION

The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet is required by KRS 177.977 and KRS 42.455, the Local Government Economic Assistance Program, to produce an annual report of the Coal Haul Highway System. The Coal Haul Highway System is the public highways on which coal was reported transported by truck. The 2005 System designation is based on information submitted by coal transporters for the calendar year 2004.

The Cabinet is also required to determine the coal haul ton-miles in each county using information submitted by coal transporters. The Cabinet is not responsible for the actual allocation of coal severance tax revenue to counties. The Governor's Office for Local Development uses the ton-miles information as one factor in the formulas for the distribution of coal severance tax revenue to coal producing and coal impact counties.

The Extended Weight Coal or Coal By-products Haul Road System (EWCHRS) is based on information collected from coal transporters. The EWCHRS consists of coal haul highway system segments over which coal or coal by-products in excess of 50,000 tons were transported by motor vehicles. Therefore, not all the road segments in this report are included in the EWCHRS.

The Coal Haul Highway System Report is a series of maps, a table of coal ton-miles and percentages, and a listing of the public highways on which coal was transported. For the purposes of this report, counties where coal was reported shipped from mines during calendar year 2004 are labeled coal producing counties. Counties where coal was transported by truck, but they reported none mined, are labeled impact counties.

METHODOLOGY

To comply with KRS 177.977, KRS 42.455(8) and 603 KAR 5:115, every transporter of coal is required to report the routes and tonnages of coal shipped by truck on public roads in Kentucky to the Transportation Cabinet. They are also required to notify the Cabinet if no coal was trucked during the reporting period.

A Coal Shipment Route and Tonnage Report (TC 59-100) is mailed semi-annually to each known coal transporter. Addresses for known transporters are gathered from the Kentucky Revenue Cabinet's list of coal severance taxpayers, from the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet, Department for Surface Mining and Reclamation's listing of current coal mine permit holders, and from other sources. On the report form, coal shippers describe each route segment from a mine or other coal operation to a specific destination by listing the mileage traveled and the tonnage hauled on that route.

Within the Transportation Cabinet, Division of Planning personnel sends and receives report forms, compiles the data, and prepares an annual report. Roads used during the study year are listed by Interstate, US, Parkway, KY, county road, or city street number with beginning and ending milepoints. The standard for mileage on state-maintained highways is the Transportation Cabinet's Route Log; mileage on county roads and city streets is taken from county and city maps.

With the information from the report forms, the locations of mines, tipples and other points of origin and destination, the routes traveled and the tons transported are entered into a database and the tons, mileage, and ton-miles for each county are calculated.